

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DRC-01 /096 W

----- 101924

R 121413Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1742

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY OTTOWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY OSLO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 9074

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, ILO, NI

SUBJECT: ELECTION OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ILO

REF: LAGOS 8864

SUMMARY: NIGERIAN LABOR PERMSEC S. O. KOKU IS

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INTERESTED IN ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL POSITION BUT WILL

NOT ACTIVELY PURSUE CANDIDACY SO LONG AS OAU-
BACKED TEVOEDJRE IS IN RUNNING. END SUMMARY

1. NIGERIAN LABOR PERMSEC S.O. KOKU, DURING EXTENDED CONVERSATION WITH AFL-CIO DELEGATION AND LABATT, REFERRED TO ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL SITUATION. HIS REMARKS WERE RATHER CRYPTIC DUE TO PRESENCE OF HIS PRESS OFFICER. HE STATED THAT HE WAS UNCERTAIN CONCERNING TIMING OF ELECTION OF NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL BUT FELT NOVEMBER GOVERNING BODY MEETING WOULD NOT TAKE DEFINITE ACTION. KOKU NOTED OAU DECISION EARLIER THIS YEAR CONCERNING ILO MATTER. HE DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT THIS DECISION WAS BUT WAS OBVIOUSLY REFERRING TO DECISION TO BACK DAHOMEAN CANDIDATE. HE TERMED THIS DECISION "ILL ADVISED AND UNFORTUNATE," AND BELIEVES JENKS' DEATH OPENS NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES. HE UNDERSTANDS THERE MAY BE AN INTEREST IN OBTAINING SERVICES OF A NON-ILO INDIVIDUAL TO SERVE AS DIRECTOR GENERAL AND PRESENT GOVERNING BODY MEETING MAY WELL TAKE DECISIONS WHICH WOULD NEGATE OAU CANDIDATE.

2. IN LATER CONVERSATION WITH LABATT, KOKU ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO BE CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR GENERAL POSITION, BUT WOULD NOT ACTIVELY PURSUE CANDIDACY BEACUSE OF OAU DECISION TO BACK TEVOEDJRE.

3. COMMENT: KOKU OBVIOUSLY FEELS TIED TO OAU DECISION INITIALLY TO SUPPORT TEVOEDJRE, ESPECIALLY SINCE GENERAL GOWON IS OAU CHAIRMAN. HOWEVER, KOKU WILL EVIDENTLY FEEL FREE TO BE CANDIDATE IF IT BECOMES OBVIOUS TEVOEDJRE DOES NOT HAVE NECESSARY SUPPORT TO WIN.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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